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To: ["R7 Senior" <Staff>](#)
CC:
Date: 6/19/2014 8:52:48 AM
Subject: OPA Morning Clips - 6/19/14

Associated Press - Judge Clarifies Bridgeton Landfill Settlement - 6/19/14 - A federal judge has ruled that residents who collect damages from a \$6.8 million class-action settlement over the smoldering Bridgeton Landfill in St. Louis County can still pursue separate legal claims related to radiation risks. <http://stlouis.cbslocal.com/2014/06/19/judge-clarifies-bridgeton-landfill-settlement/>

KSDK Ch. 5 St. Louis - Landfill lawsuit participants can return to court - 6/18/14 - Participants in a class-action lawsuit against the controversial Bridgeton Landfill have the right to take the company back to court, a federal judge ruled last week. According to the addendum, those who receive a settlement from the lawsuit will maintain a right to file a separate suit for radiation exposure in the future. <http://www.ksdk.com/story/news/local/2014/06/18/bridgeton-landfill-lawsuit-participants-court-addendum-radiation/10735037/>

Courthouse News Service - Deadline Extended in Landfill Class Action - 6/19/14 - A federal judge extended the opt-in deadline for neighbors of a landfill who were exposed to noxious odors to join a class action settlement, and clarified that joining the agreement does not wave rights to sue if contamination continues. <http://www.courthousenews.com/2014/06/19/68861.htm>

KSN Ch. 3 Wichita - Another Wichita neighborhood to be connected to city lines | Residents say groundwater contamination is spreading - 6/18/14 - Another Wichita neighborhood will be connected to city lines. Residents who live on Rolling Hills Court in West Wichita filed a petition to be added onto the city's water because they say contamination is spreading. <http://ksn.com/2014/06/17/another-wichita-neighborhood-to-be-connected-to-city-lines/>

Wichita Eagle - Residents near contaminated groundwater to hook up to city water - 6/18/14 - Residents of an area in west Wichita near contaminated groundwater will get new lines connecting them to city water. <http://www.kansas.com/2014/06/18/3513849/residents-near-contaminated-groundwater.html>

Nebraska Educational Television - EPA Plan To Limit Carbon Raises Questions For Nebraska Coal Plants - 6/18/14 - Nebraska gets lots of its electricity from generating stations that burn coal. But to address climate change, the Environmental Protection Agency says the state needs to cut carbon emissions by more than a fourth. That puts the future of those coal-fired plants, and the cheap electricity they produce, in question. <http://www.netnebraska.org/article/news/922690/epa-plan-limit-carbon-raises-questions-nebraska-coal-plants>

Washington Post - Did EPA Administrator Gina McCarthy declare a 'war on coal'? - 6/19/14 - Can't be more clear: there is no war on coal. Clean Power Plan is about reducing pollution and fighting for public health. <http://www.washingtonpost.com/blogs/fact-checker/wp/2014/06/19/did-epa-administrator-gina-mccarthy-declare-a-war-on-coal/>

Des Moines Register - Petroleum group: EPA moving too slowly on fuel mandate - 6/18/14 - A top oil and gas trade group criticized the agency in charge of overseeing the country's renewable fuels mandate for not yet announcing how much ethanol must be blended into the nation's gasoline supply this year, increasing uncertainty for those who must comply with the controversial requirement. <http://www.desmoinesregister.com/story/money/agriculture/2014/06/18/epa-ethanol-criticism/10759947/>

NOTE: Paywall issues may keep you from seeing this article. Full text is included at the end of this email.

The Hill - EPA chiefs who served under Republicans press for climate action - 6/18/14 - Four former Environmental Protection Agency administrators who served under Republican presidents on Wednesday said climate change should not be a partisan issue. The former EPA chiefs told reporters that Republican lawmakers who believe the climate is

changing should speak out because voters will be on their side. <http://thehill.com/policy/energy-environment/209771-gop-tapped-epa-heads-public-demand-will-break-climate-discord>

Reuters - Republican ex-EPA chiefs voice support for new carbon rules - 6/18/14 - Rising public support for action on climate change bodes well for federal regulations announced this month to limit pollution from power plants, four Republican former chiefs of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency said on Wednesday. <http://www.reuters.com/article/2014/06/18/usa-epa-republicans-idUSL2N0OZ16120140618>

Inside Climate - Republican EPA Chiefs: No Excuse for Congressional Climate Inaction - 6/18/14 - Hearing meant to highlight some bipartisanship on EPA's new climate plan did more to expose the deep partisan divide over the issue. <https://insideclimatenews.org/carbon-copy/20140618/republican-epa-chiefs-no-excuse-congressional-climate-inaction>

Des Moines Register

Petroleum group: EPA moving too slowly on fuel mandate

By Christopher Doering - 1:08 p.m. CDT June 18, 2014

<http://www.desmoinesregister.com/story/money/agriculture/2014/06/18/epa-ethanol-criticism/10759947/>

A top oil and gas trade group criticized the agency in charge of overseeing the country's renewable fuels mandate for not yet announcing how much ethanol must be blended into the nation's gasoline supply this year, increasing uncertainty for those who must comply with the controversial requirement.

The American Petroleum Institute, which represents 550 oil and natural gas companies, said Wednesday the delay has left its members that are responsible for complying with the Renewable Fuel Standard (RFS) to guess how much ethanol they have to blend.

In a letter to Environmental Protection Agency Administrator Gina McCarthy sent Wednesday, Bob Greco, API's downstream group director, said the delays in implementing the Renewable Fuel Standard "are unacceptable, fundamentally unfair" and show a disregard for a deadline put in place by Congress.

Last week, EPA Deputy Administrator Bob Perciasepe said the agency expected to send the proposed 2014 blending requirements to the Office of Management and Budget, the agency tasked with vetting proposed regulations, "pretty soon."

"I can't predict where it's going to end, but certainly I've met with the agricultural groups, the administrator has met with the agricultural groups, we've gotten more data and we're looking very hard at this," he said in the interview.

The EPA is required to finalize the blending requirements for the following year by Nov. 30, a deadline the API said the agency hasn't met since 2011. The API, a long-time critic of the Renewable Fuel Standard, said it expects the 2014 requirements wouldn't be finalized "for several more months...perhaps not until September."

"We prefer the EPA gets its act together and finalizes this rule as quickly as possible," Greco told reporters. "Given the increasingly long delays in finalizing volume mandates each year, as well as the negative impacts on consumer property, market choice and the environment, it is clear that Congress must act to repeal the RFS outright."

Still, Greco acknowledged that while his group is optimistic Congress will move ahead on a reform or a repeal of the mandate, "it's a challenge given that it's an election year." He said the API would continue to push for change, and that momentum to overhaul the mandate would increase in Congress.

In November, the EPA proposed reducing ethanol produced from corn in 2014 to 13.01 billion gallons from 14.4 billion gallons initially required in the 2007 Renewable Fuel Standard, a

law that requires refiners to buy alternative fuels made from corn, soybeans and other products to reduce the country's dependence on foreign energy. Those who follow the ethanol debate expect the EPA will increase the Renewable Fuel Standard blending level from the November estimate.

Corn and ethanol groups have criticized the cut, arguing it would hurt rural America, stifle job growth and slow momentum for the next-generation of ethanol, particularly next-generation fuels produced from crop waste, wood, grasses and other plants. Last year Iowa, the largest ethanol-producing state, accounted for roughly 28 percent of country's production. The state generated 3.7 billion gallons of ethanol from 42 plants in 2013.